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COMIREX Minute file

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COMIREX-M-39

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

COMIREX-M-39
29 May 1968

Approved for M-41

The following is an index of the Minutes of the 29 May 1968
COMIREX Meeting:

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Subcommittee

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Subcommittee

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Cuba

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Copy 50 of 66

NRO review(s)
completed.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

Page 12 Recommendations Affecting the NRP Five-Year Plan

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Page 14 [Redacted]

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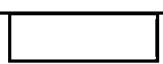
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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

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Minutes of Meeting Held in Auditorium

1000-1300, Wednesday, 29 May 1968

PRESIDING

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Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT

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Mr. L. A. Moyer, Jr., State

DIA

Col. R. W. Kane, AFNIN

NSA

Mr. J. C. St. Cyr, OACSI

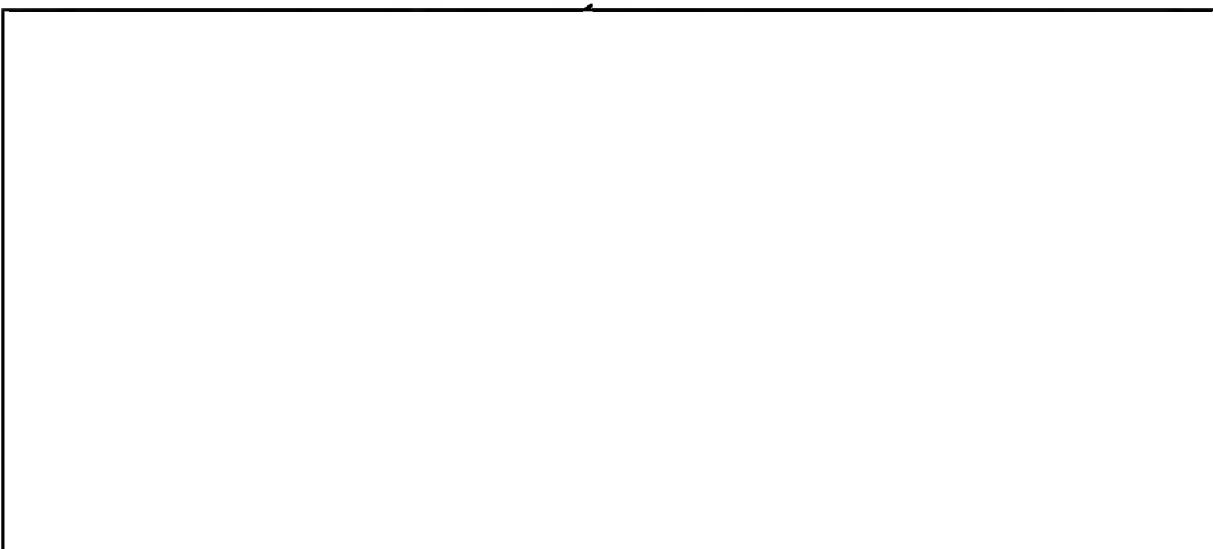
CIA

Capt. S. E. Sloan, ONI

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CONSULTANTS PRESENT

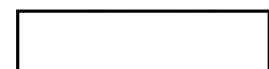


*Attended part of meeting.

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Section I (Approval of Minutes, Briefings, and Reports on Operations)

Approval of Minutes

[redacted]

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1. COMIREX-M-36 were approved as written.

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Operational Briefing -- Satellite

[redacted]

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2. [redacted] reported the satellite schedule as
of 29 May as follows:

[redacted]

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CORONA

1047 - Scheduled 19 June 1968

25X1D

1104 - Scheduled 7 August 1968

[redacted]

Report on Aircraft Activity -- Far East

[redacted]

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3. [redacted] reported no BLACK SHIELD or IDEALIST/
TACKLE activity. [redacted] confirmed the continuing stand-down
of FOOD FAIR and advised that there had been two GIANT SCALE
flights.

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[redacted]

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas / Targets</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
24 May	GS021	NVN	Coverage Fair to Good
25 May	GS022	NVN	Coverage Fair

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4. [redacted] provided the following report on
BUMPY ACTION activities 24 - 29 May:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas / Targets</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
24 May	Q452	Hanoi Area	Successful, MARS
25 May	Q221	Route 15	Successful, MARS
26 May	Q473	Cat Bi, Phuc Yen Afld	Did not return
27 May	Q472	Nam Dinh Transp Pt; Successful, MARS TPP; - RR Yd; Bac Mai Afld; Hanoi Army Bks, - Port Fac; Gia Lam Afld; Kep Afld; RR Yd	
	Q701	Thanh Hoa RR Br; Successful, MARS RR Thanh Hoa - Vinh	
28 May	Q802	Rte 1A to Hanoi; Did not return Bac Mai Afld; Bac Giang	
		Successful 4	
		Lost 2	

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5. [redacted] supplied the following report of attempts to satisfy two outstanding requirements in the South China/North Vietnam area..

a. Coverage of Lines of Communications (LOC) pertinent to the introduction of Chinese forces into North Vietnam (See COMOR-D-25/207, 4 March 1966). The number of LOC priority targets in South China and North Vietnam remains at 144. For the period 23 - 29 May 1968, surveillance coverage was reported on 13 priority targets in North Vietnam. The specific targets are underlined in Tab A.

b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of offensive missile systems (See COMOR-D-25/220, 23 May 1967 and COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967). The area coverage reported obtained between 9 - 29 May 1968 consisted of five GIANT SCALE and seven BUMPY ACTION missions. The coverage is shown on the grid map at Tab B. No SSM activity was observed.

Report on Aircraft Activity--Cuba

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6. [redacted] advised that no GLASS LAMP missions had been flown in the period 24 - 29 May.

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7. [redacted] reported that for the 56-day period beginning 4 April 1968, four GLASS LAMP missions were flown over Cuba and provided 90 percent coverage of the area. During this period 134 of the 140 targets in Cuba were covered completely on cloud-free photography.

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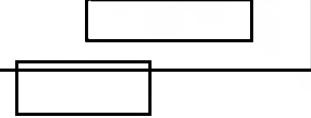
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Section II (NPIC Report)

Mission Highlights



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1. [Redacted box] showed four boards as follows:



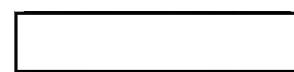
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c. A probable Squat Eye radar was photographed in North Vietnam by BUMPY ACTION 18 April. The Squat Eye, the first in North Vietnam, is now identified one n. m. south of Phuc Yen. Deployment of these radars began in the Warsaw Pact countries in 1967. This radar supposedly has an improved capability, over Flat Face, against low altitude targets.

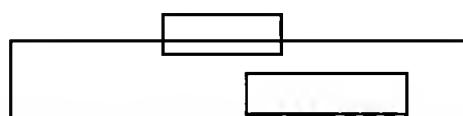
d. Yen Bai, North Vietnam. Photography shows completion of the runway and taxi-way, following 2 1/2 years of construction. The runway is 7500 feet by 180 feet. Although considerable construction activity continues, the airfield is serviceable and is probably operational.

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Section III (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

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Report from Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee

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CORONA

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1. [redacted] reported that the orbit for the next
CORONA has been selected. It will be fired at an 85 degree
angle of inclination [redacted]

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2. The development of new orbit select programming
capability by the NRO/CIA-OSP will allow the ICRS to participate
in CORONA orbit development to a greater extent than has been
possible in the past. For future CORONA missions, ICRS will
provide detailed requirements to the NRO for input into the orbit
select program. [redacted]

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6. A recommended list of domestic targets received from NPIC to support project "Brainstorm" was approved for inclusion [redacted]. These targets will be used to determine the quality of the mission in terms of mensuration by utilizing the ground truth data from project "Brainstorm". Approval was contingent on a "no cost" basis to intelligence collection.

SEARCH

7. Through Mission 1103 the satisfaction of the search requirement is as follows:

- a. Built-up areas - 67% Complete
- b. Underdeveloped areas - 66.7% Complete

Report on Far East Coverage

8. Attached at Tab C is the periodic report on the status of collection against the Far East requirement.

Cuba

9. As a result of a review of the Cuban target file, the ICRS members approved the inactivation of 45 targets. The file contains a new total of 140 targets.

Report from Imagery Exploitation Subcommittee [redacted]

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10. [redacted] reported that EXSUBCOM is working actively on revision of the film distribution problem for KH-4 [redacted]. [redacted] explained that the objective is to cut down on unnecessary distribution. EXSUBCOM also plans to begin studying the problem [redacted] distribution.

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Report from Data Base Working Group

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11. [redacted] advised that he has established a task team on target delineation. This team will be under the chairmanship of NPIC, and NRO will participate. As of the time of this report, no problems are anticipated.

Report from Exploitation Research and Development Subcommittee

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12. [redacted] advised that there has been further discussion of how to arrive at objective priorities for the EXRAND objectives. [redacted] warned the Chairman that, even with the inclusion of substantive participants, the arbitration of priorities seems to present problems.

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[redacted]

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Section IV (Action Items)

Consideration of Need to Use H or 112-B Camera over Cuba

1. Referring to the previous meeting, the Chairman noted that the information available at that time had not been quite precise as SAC actually not only had an H camera but a U-2 had flown a mission on 25 April. The IPIR was published on 30 April.

[redacted] confirmed that the requirement is still on the books so SAC is actually quite correct in trying to meet it, especially in June when the sun angle is favorable for photography of the entrance of the Santiago bunker. [redacted] advised COMIREX that the technical evaluation showed that the IMC had functioned correctly; this had been a problem on the previous missions.

[redacted] noted also that the PI suitability was fair to good and the scale provided detailed information. This camera has a 66-inch focal length. [redacted] added that the best resolution was about 20 inches. COMIREX specifically approved renewed efforts to photograph the Santiago bunker while noting that the other targets, considered by DIA to be of importance from an improved resolution standpoint, could be covered on the way to or from Santiago. At this point they would not be the object of special missions.

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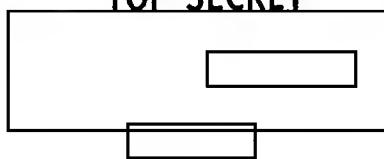
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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

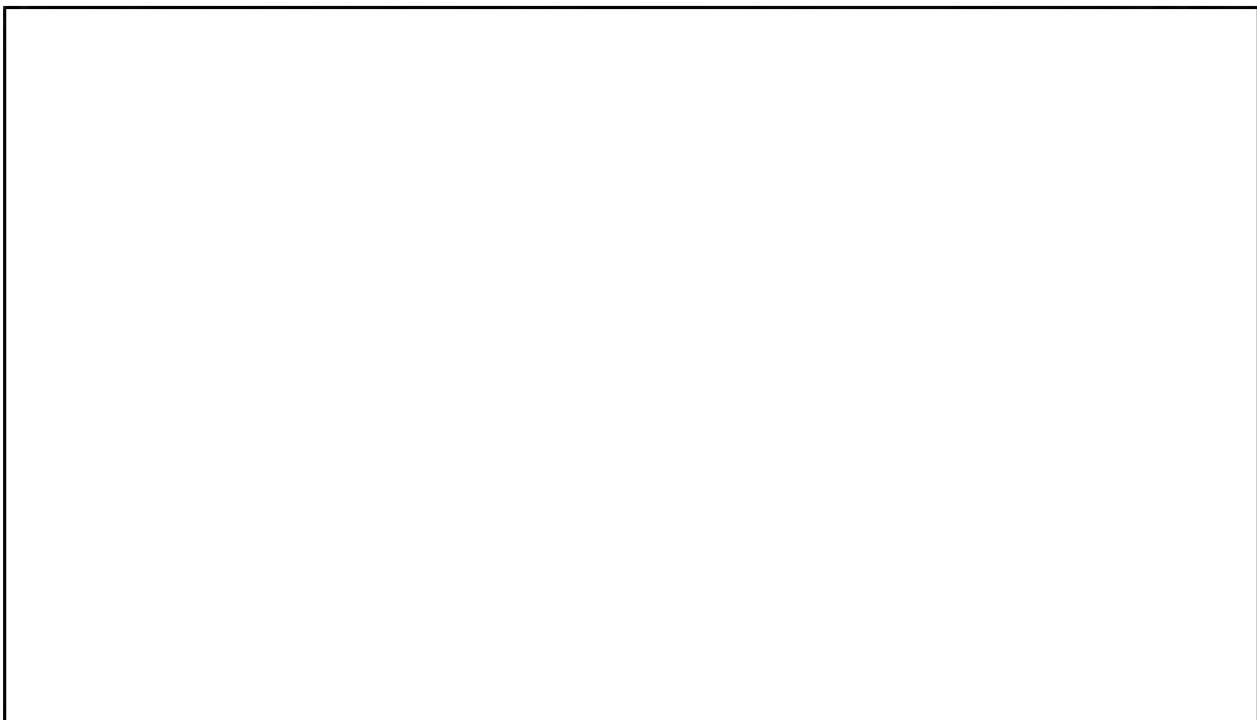
Recommendations Affecting the NRP Five-Year Plan

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1. [redacted] referred to the phraseology in the paper and wished to make it a matter of record that the guidance requested was with regard to the five-year budget cycle.

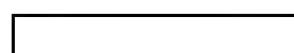
[redacted] also felt it would be helpful to be specific that satellite reconnaissance is the subject.

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3. The DIA member had some suggestions to improve paragraph 6 particularly aimed at conveying a better image of the present search program. [redacted] suggested that his language was to some extent prompted by his unhappiness with the search

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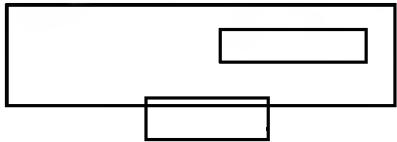
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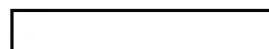
requirement as presently stated. He agreed to some changes to the paragraph based on the expectation that COMIREX will soon come up with a definitive new requirement to guide the search efforts. Pertinent to this the Chairman emphasized that an essential ingredient in satellite reconnaissance is a proper balance and interplay between systems. While noting that the EEI exercise is important in specifying what resolution is needed for Phase III reports, the EEIs are not fundamental to a proper conduct of search and surveillance types of reconnaissance. In broad terms the search program is served by a resolution which is adequate to detect activity in places where previously there was no activity. The surveillance program, aided where appropriate by the so called search vehicle, is founded on a program with a periodicity designed to detect significant change to known targets.

4. In conclusion the Chairman noted that the draft paper with some changes presented by the Acting CIA member and additional suggestions made at the meeting appeared to be acceptable to COMIREX. The principal exception was that of [redacted] to paragraph 9. [redacted] suggested that this could be discussed further and a footnote could be added if necessary. /The revised paper was forwarded to USIB as COMIREX-D-11.1/1./

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Addendum

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Attached as page 28 for the information of COMIREX is a copy of the NPIC organization chart. This was the second chart presented to COMIREX by [] when he briefed the Committee on 23 May (COMIREX-M-38, paragraph 1, special briefing). Please insert this page as Tab D to COMIREX-M-38. *done*



Executive Secretary
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

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Attachments

Tabs A, B, C

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7 DIA []
8, 9, 10, 11 DIA TCO
12, 13 OACSI TCO
14, 15 ONI TCO
16, 17 AFNIN TCO
18, 19 NSA TCO
20, 21, 22 NRO TCO

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